

# EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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BACKGROUND NOTE

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## COMMUNIQUE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY "SUMMIT" MEETING AND ANNEXES

Danish Prime Minister Anker Jørgensen issued the following statement on December 15, 1973, after the December 14-15 meeting of Heads of State and Government of the European Community in Copenhagen. Because Denmark currently holds the rotating office of presidency of the EC Council of Ministers, the Danish Prime Minister was spokesman for the "Nine."

The Heads of State or Government of the Member States of the European Community met in Copenhagen on December 14 and 15, 1973 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Denmark. The President of the Commission participated actively in their work on Community questions.

They agreed as follows:

1.) The nine countries affirm their common will that Europe should speak with one voice in important world affairs. They adopted the declaration on the European identity [Annex 11], which defines, with the dynamic nature of the Community in mind, the principles which are to underlie their action.

2.) They decided to speed up the work required to define the European union which they had set themselves as their major objective at the Paris summit. They asked the Presidency to make the necessary proposals without delay.

3.) They decided to meet more frequently. These meetings will be held whenever justified by the circumstances and when it appears necessary to provide a stimulus or to lay down further guidelines for the construction of a United Europe. They also agreed to meet whenever the international situation so requires.

It will be for the country providing the President to convene these meetings and to make detailed proposals concerning their preparation and organization.

The Heads of State or Government attach the greatest importance to the institutions of the Community playing their full role and to the necessary decisions being taken there in good time.

4.) It was agreed that the Foreign Ministers of the Member States should, at their next meeting, decide on the means by which a common position should be worked out quickly in times of crisis.

The development of political cooperation will also enable them to make joint assessments of crisis situations, with the aim of foreseeing them and of taking the measures needed to deal with them.

5.) They confirmed their support for the policy of international detente which respects the independence and security of each state and the rules laid down in the Charter of the United Nations for the prevention and settlement of confusion.

6.) They agreed that the growing unity of the Nine would strengthen the West as a whole and will be beneficial for the relationship between Europe and the United States.

7.) The Heads of State or Government welcome the convening of a peace conference in Geneva and call on the participants to make every effort to achieve a just and lasting settlement at an early date. The nine Governments are ready to assist in the search for peace and in the guaranteeing of a settlement.

The Heads of State or Government reaffirmed the united stand of their Governments on the Middle East question embodied in the declaration issued on November 6. Recent events have strengthened them in their view that the security of all states in the area, whether it be Israel or her Arab neighbors, can only be based on the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 242 in all its parts taking into account also the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

The Heads of State or Government are convinced that the requirements of sovereignty and the requirements of security can be met by the conclusion of peace agreements including among other arrangements international guarantees and the establishment of demilitarized zones.

They will inform the Secretary General of the UN thereof.

8.) As regards the European Communities, the Heads of State or Government reaffirmed the importance they attach to what the Community has already achieved and their will to see it develop. After examining the progress already made in implementing earlier decisions they agreed:

- To invite the Community institutions to take measures to achieve more rapid progress towards the full establishment of economic and monetary union building on the decisions already taken.

- To seek actively the definition of a common position on reform of the international monetary situation, to increase the instruments at the disposal of the European Monetary Cooperation Fund, and to strengthen the coordination of their action to deal with destabilizing capital movements, in order to create an area of stability in Europe
- The Heads of State and Government agreed that the Regional Development Fund should be established on January 1, 1974. As an expression of their positive attitude to the establishment of the Fund they agreed to recommend to their Foreign Ministers that the Council of the European Communities at its next session shall take the necessary decisions concerning the size and the distribution of the Fund and the criteria for the Fund's operations
- To make the functioning of the Community's institutions more effective by improving cooperation between the Council, the Commission, and the Parliament, by a more rapid procedure for the settlement of questions submitted to the Community authorities and by reinforcing its financial control, involving inter alia the establishment of an independent Community Audit Board and the strengthening of the role of the European Parliament in budgetary matters
- That the Foreign Ministers at the next session of the Council of the European Communities find a solution to enable the Faroe Islands to postpone their decision concerning membership in the European Communities until the result of the Conference on the Law of the Sea is known
- To implement a social action program having as its aim the achievement of full and better employment in the Community, the improvement of living and working conditions in a way which makes possible their harmonization while the improvement is being maintained, and growing participation by the social partners in the Community's economic and social decisions and by workers in the activities of enterprises

- The Heads of State or Government, mindful of the importance they attach to problems arising from international trade in primary products and raw materials, asked the Commission to prepare a detailed study and to put proposals to the Council

- To develop more actively between them a common policy on industrial, scientific, and technological cooperation in all fields.

9.) The Heads of State or Government have considered the question of energy in a separate paper, attached to this declaration.

10.) The Heads of State or Government are convinced that a United Europe will be able to play a rôle consonant with its history and its abilities in the service of economic and social progress in the Community, of the growth and industrialization of developing countries, and of peace between all nations.

ANNEX TO THE COMMUNICATION OF THE PRESIDENCY

ENERGY

The Heads of State or Government considered that the situation produced by the energy crisis is a threat to the world economy as a whole, affecting not only developed but also developing countries. A prolonged scarcity of energy resources would have grave effects on production, employment, and balances of payment within the Community.

The Heads of State or Government therefore agreed on the necessity for the Community to take immediate and effective action along the following lines:

The Council should adopt at its session of December 17-18, 1973, the Community instruments, which will enable the Commission to establish by January 15, 1974, comprehensive energy balance sheets covering all relevant aspects of the energy situation in the Community.

The Commission should on this basis proceed to examine all present or foreseeable repercussions of the energy supply situation on production, employment, prices, and balances of payments, as well as on the development of monetary reserves.

The Heads of State or Government ask the Commission to present by January 31, 1974, proposals on which the Council will be invited to decide as quickly as possible, and in principle before February 28, 1974, to ensure the orderly functioning of the Common Market for energy.

In this context the Commission is asked to submit to the Council as quickly as possible for rapid decision proposals aimed at resolving in a concerted manner the problems raised by the developing energy crisis.

For the same reasons they asked the Council to adopt provisions to ensure that all Member States introduce on a concerted and equitable basis measures to limit energy consumption.

With a view to securing the energy supplies of the Community the Council will adopt a comprehensive Community program on alternative sources of energy. This program will be designed to promote a diversification of supplies by developing existing resources, accelerating research in new sources of energy, and creating new capacities of production, notably a European capacity for enrichment of uranium, seeking the concerted harmonious development of existing projects.

The Heads of State or Government confirmed the importance of entering into negotiations with oil-producing countries on comprehensive arrangements comprising cooperation on a wide scale for the economic and industrial development of these countries, industrial investments, and stable energy supplies to the member countries at reasonable prices.

They furthermore considered it useful to study with other oil-consuming countries, within the framework of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), ways of dealing with the common short-and long-term energy problems of consumer countries.

The Council should establish at its session of December 17-18, 1973, an Energy Committee of senior officials which is responsible for implementing the energy policy measures adopted by the Council.

DECLARATION ON EUROPE'S IDENTITY

The following text was issued in Copenhagen by the Heads of State or Government of the European Community's nine member countries on December 14, the opening day of their two-day "Summit" meeting.

The nine member countries of the European Communities have decided that the time has come to draw up a document on the European identity. This will enable them to achieve a better definition of their relations with other countries and of their responsibilities and the place which they occupy in world affairs. They have decided to define the European identity with the dynamic nature of the Community in mind. They have the intention of carrying the work further in the future in the light of the progress made in the construction of a united Europe.



Defining the European identity involves:

- Reviewing the common heritage, interests and special obligations of the Nine, as well as the degree of unity so far achieved within the Community.
- Assessing the extent to which the Nine are already acting together in relation to the rest of the world and the responsibilities which result from this.
- Taking into consideration the dynamic nature of European unification.

#### I The Unity of the Nine Member Countries of the Community

1. The nine European states might have been pushed towards disunity by their history and by selfishly defending misjudged interests. But they have overcome their past enmities and have decided that unity is a basic European necessity to insure the survival of the civilization which they have in common.

The Nine wish to insure that the cherished values of their legal, political, and moral orders are respected, and to preserve the rich variety of their national cultures. Sharing as they do the same attitudes to life, based on a determination to build a society which measures up to the needs of the individual, they are determined to defend the principles of representative democracy, of the rule of law, or social justice -- which is the ultimate goal of economic progress -- and of respect for human rights. All of these are fundamental elements of the European identity. The Nine believe that this enterprise corresponds to the deepest aspirations of their peoples, who should participate in its realization, particularly through their elected representatives.

2.) The Nine have the political will to succeed in the construction of a united Europe. On the basis of the Treaties of Paris and Rome setting up the European Communities and of subsequent decisions, they have created a Common Market, based on a customs union, and have established institutions, common policies and machinery for cooperation. All these are an essential part of the European identity. The Nine are determined to safeguard the elements which make up the unity they have achieved so far and the fundamental objectives laid down for future development at the Summit conferences in The Hague and Paris. On the basis of the Luxembourg and Copenhagen reports, the nine Governments have established a system of political cooperation with a view to determining common attitudes and, where possible and desirable, common action. They propose to develop this further. In accordance with the decision taken at the Paris conference, the Nine reaffirm their intention of transforming the whole complex of their relations into a European union before the end of the present decade.

3.) The diversity of cultures within the framework of a common European civilization, the attachment to common values and principles, the increasing convergence of attitudes to life, the awareness of having specific interests in common, and the determination to take part in the construction of a united Europe, all give the European identity its originality and its own dynamism.

4.) The construction of a united Europe, which the nine member countries of the Community are undertaking, is open to other European nations who share the same ideals and objectives.

5.) The European countries have, in the course of their history, developed close ties with many other parts of the world. These relationships, which will continue to evolve, constitute an assurance of progress and international equilibrium.

6.) Although in the past the European countries were individually able to play a major role on the international scene, present international problems are difficult for any of the Nine to solve alone. International developments and the growing concentration of power and responsibility in the hands of a very small number of great powers mean that Europe must unite and speak increasingly with a single voice if it wants to make itself heard and play its proper role in the world.

7.) The Community, the world's largest trading group, could not be a closed entity. It has close links with the rest of the world as regards its supplies and market outlets. For this reason the Community, while remaining in control of its own trading policies, intends to exert a positive influence on world economic relations with a view to the greater well-being of all.

8.) The Nine, one of whose essential aims is to maintain peace, will never succeed in doing so if they neglect their own security. Those of them who are members of the Atlantic alliance consider that in present circumstances there is no alternative to the security provided by the nuclear weapons of the United States and by the presence of North American forces in Europe; and they agree that in the light of the relative military vulnerability of Europe, the Europeans should, if they wish to preserve their independence, hold to their commitments and make constant efforts to insure that they have adequate means of defense at their disposal.

## II The European Identity in Relation to the World

9.) The Europe of the Nine is aware that as it unites, it takes on new international obligations. European unification is not directed against anyone, nor is it inspired by a desire for power. On the contrary, the Nine are convinced that their union will benefit the whole international community since it will constitute an element of equilibrium and a basis for cooperation with all countries, whatever their size, culture, or social system. The Nine intend to play an active role in world affairs and thus to contribute, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, to insuring that international relations have a more just basis, that prosperity is more equitably shared, and that the security of each country is more effectively guaranteed. In pursuit of these objectives the Nine should progressively define common positions in the sphere of foreign policy.

10.) As the Community progresses toward a common policy in relation to third countries, it will act in accordance with the following principles:

A. The Nine, acting as a single entity, will strive to promote harmonious and constructive relations with these countries. This should not, however, jeopardize, hold back, or affect the will of the Nine to progress towards European union within the time limits laid down.

B. In future when the Nine negotiate collectively with other countries, the institutions and procedures chosen should enable the distinct character of the European entity to be respected.

C. In bilateral contacts with other countries, the Member States of the Community will increasingly act on the basis of agreed common positions.

11.) The Nine intend to strengthen their links, in the present institutional framework, with the member countries of the Council of Europe, and with other European countries with whom they already have friendly relations and close cooperation.

12.) The Nine attach essential importance to the Community's policy of association. Without diminishing the advantages enjoyed by the countries with which it has special relations, the Community intends progressively to put into operation a policy for development aid on a worldwide scale in accordance with the principles and aims set out in the Paris summit declaration.

13.) The Community will implement its undertakings towards the Mediterranean and African countries in order to reinforce its long-standing links with these countries. The Nine intend to preserve their historic links with the countries of the Middle East and to cooperate over the establishment and maintenance of peace, stability, and progress in the region.

14.) The close ties between the United States and Europe of the Nine -- who share values and aspirations based on a common heritage -- are mutually beneficial and must be preserved; these ties do not conflict with the determination of the Nine to establish themselves as a distinct and original entity. The Nine intend to maintain their constructive dialogue and to develop their cooperation with the United States on the basis of equality and in a spirit of friendship.

15.) The Nine also remain determined to engage in close cooperation and to pursue a constructive dialogue with the other industrialized countries, such as Japan and Canada, which have an essential role in maintaining an open and balanced world economic system. They appreciate the existing fruitful cooperation with these countries, particularly in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

16.) The Nine have contributed, both individually and collectively, to the first results of a policy of detente and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the East European countries. They are determined to carry this policy further forward on a reciprocal basis.

17.) Conscious of the major role played by China in international affairs, the Nine intend to intensify their relations with the Chinese Government and to promote exchanges in various fields as well as contacts between European and Chinese leaders.

18.) The Nine are also aware of the important role played by other Asian countries. They are determined to develop their relations with these countries as is demonstrated, as far as commercial relations are concerned, by the declaration of intent made by the Community at the time of its enlargement.

19.) The Nine are traditionally bound to the Latin-American countries by friendly links and many other contacts; they intend to develop these. In this context they attach great importance to the agreements concluded between the European Community and certain Latin-American countries.

20.) There can be no real peace if the developed countries do not pay more heed to the less favored nations. Convinced of this fact, and conscious of their responsibilities and particular obligations, the Nine attach very great importance to the struggle against underdevelopment. They are, therefore, resolved to intensify their efforts in the fields of trade and development aid and to strengthen international cooperation toward these ends.

21.) The Nine will participate in international negotiations in an outward-looking spirit, while preserving the fundamental elements of their unity and their basic aims. They are also resolved to contribute to international progress, both through their relations with third countries and by adopting common positions wherever possible in international organizations, notably the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

III The Dynamic Nature of the Construction of a United Europe

22.) The European identity will evolve as a function of the dynamic of the construction of a United Europe. In their external relations, the Nine propose progressively to undertake the definition of their identity in relation to other countries or groups of countries. They believe that in so doing they will strengthen their own cohesion and contribute to the framing of a genuinely European foreign policy. They are convinced that building up this policy will help them to tackle with confidence and realism further stages in the construction of a united Europe, thus making easier the proposed transformation of the whole complex of their relations into a European union.